

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action has been carefully considered. It is respectfully submitted that the issues raised are traversed, being hereinafter addressed with reference to the relevant headings appearing in the Detailed Action section of the Office Action.

The Applicant has amended claims. The Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the claim set are fully supported by the originally filed specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 103

The Examiner has maintained his rejection to claims 1, 3 to 5, 7 to 8, and 13 to 15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ackley (USPN 6152370) in view of Ehrhart *et al.* (USPN 6304660) and Yukihiro *et al.* (Japanese Publication No. 09-022439).

The Applicant respectfully submits that the Applicant maintains that the present claim 1 is patentable over the cited prior art, due to reasons outlined in the Applicant's previous response. However, in order to expedite acceptance of the present application, the Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the calibrator feature of claim 6, which was indicated by the Examiner to be allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are now moot, and favourable reconsideration is therefore earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections. The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance of all the claims presently under examination.

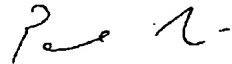
Very respectfully,

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